

# The Bell Ringer

## OF MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

Tennessee's Oldest Prep School . . . Established 1806

Vol. I. No. 7

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 16, 1945

### First Debating Team Formed Under Public Speaking Plan

A debating team under the supervision of Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Sager has been newly formed in collaboration with the public speaking department to represent Montgomery Bell Academy in debate against teams of other schools. The team consists of David McQuiddy, Billy Edwards, Ernest Matthews, and Bob Lowe with John Griscom as alternate.

Sponsoring the team has been Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Sager, who all year have been behind the idea of more public speaking. Professor Ball and Mr. Cornelius also have been enthusiastic aides. It is the first team of its kind that M.B.A. has had in many years. It is the plan of the faculty to make debating a regular feature of the school's extra curricular activities.

On March 24, the team had its first debate this year meeting Sewanee Military Academy. The question for debate was: Resolved that the legal voting age should be reduced to 18 years.

Montgomery Bell's negative opposed the affirmative of Sewanee in the Library as the Senior Class presented an audience, while the school's affirmative team opposed Sewanee's negative team in the Chapel for the benefit of the rest of the school.

Those appearing before the seniors were, M.B.A.: David McQuiddy and Billy Edwards; S.M.A.: Frank Watson and Howard Simpson.

The main points were as follows:

- Affirmative:
1. Growing power in the hands of the people.
  2. The need of new energy.
  3. Youth are capable, able, and necessary.
  4. Preserve democracy.

Negative:

1. Youth are not capable.
2. The bill would swell votes.
3. We should win the war first.
4. Girls would be the real beneficiaries instead of the soldiers for which it was intended.

Appearing before the student body for Sewanee were Nolen Singleton and George Reynolds;

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### Literary Society Has Interesting Meeting

In a recent meeting of the literary society several interesting sidelights on the question of whether the government should take over public utilities were brought forth. The negative argument seems to have had the most weight, that side winning in all but the Junior Class.

The best debaters in the third through sixth forms were Billy Edwards, Craig Parrish, Joe Martin and Al Whitson, respectively. The Bailey brothers, Bill and Clay, took the honors in half the high school declamations, being voted the best of the 3rd and 6th forms. In the fifth form Flash McCowan was accorded as best declaimer, and Jesse Ford was similarly acclaimed in the fourth form.

In the grade school a somewhat different procedure was followed this time as two separate debates were given with no declamations being presented. "Resolved, that the British soldiers fought under greater disadvantages than did the American soldiers throughout the War of Independence" was the first question. David Routon was voted the best debater as the negative side took the decision.

The second subject was "Resolved, that the British Government was justified in all policies adopted and taxes levied which eventually brought about the War of Independence." The negative side again won as Dan Adams was decided the best debater.

### Students Given Tests On Current Events

Mr. John T. Younger has initiated into his sophomore history course a new element that promises to be very popular as well as extremely educational to the boys. At regular intervals, Time magazine puts out an excellent and up-to-date current-events test. Last week, Mr. Younger gave this test to his Sophomore history class, with excellent results. Not only did most of the boys do well on the test, but this quiz also did much to promote a decided interest among the other boys, which up until this time had been sadly lacking.

The results of the first test show that Russell Campbell, Tommy McEwen, John Donnelly, Richard Fletcher, and Hugh Bryan lead the sophomore class when it comes to current events.

In the belief that current events is a very important part of History, Mr. Younger decided to try the idea. He plans in the future to give similar tests of this nature and in other ways to promote interest in the events of the world today.

### List of Those With Privileges Posted

For the past six weeks, at the beginning of every two weeks period a list of all seniors with no class below 80 and an average of 85 or better, along with a list of the rest of the high school with an average of 80 or better and no class below 80, has been put on the bulletin board. The boys who have these grades are allowed to spend their study periods anywhere on the campus.

Just about the same people are on this list every time. The number of people on the lists varies very little, too. Let's try to have more boys on it next time.

Here is the list for the first two weeks after exams:

Seniors: Nelson Andrews, Harvey Cantrell, James Curry, Bob Foster, Billy Ferguson, Gene Harris, Edwin Lewis, Ernest Matthews, Charles Robinson and Bob Whittitt.

Rest of high school: Russell Campbell, Ted Dillon, Billy Edwards, Richard Fletcher, John Griscom, Billy Howard, Joe Kirkpatrick, Tommy McEwen, Joe Martin, James Talbot, Bill Wade, Bob Waller and Bernard Werthan.

### John T. Platt, Tree Manicurist At MBA

by H. E. Cantrell

Recently the boys at M.B.A. have been somewhat astonished upon seeing a tall, dark figure shinnying up a tree around school like greased lightning (in fact, setting a record of ascent in which any squirrel might take pride), and then swinging to and fro from limb to limb with the agility of a monkey. No, Tarzan has not escaped from his comic strip, nor has Johnny Weismuirer escaped from Hollywood. It is only John T. Platt, a most capable tree trimmer, who is now employed in beautifying and preserving the trees on the campus.

Mr. Platt was not reared in a jungle, as one might imagine, but spent his boyhood in the Northeast timber country, a fact which probably influenced him to choose his career working among the friends of his youth, trees.

This manicurist, whose clients are in the main part oaks, thoroughly enjoys his work with the exception of an occasional encounter with a bee tree, on which occasions he has been known to abandon his post in favor of the nearest pond. In spite of these minor setbacks, Mr. Platt remains faithful to his duty, and with the aid of yards of mosquito netting and gallons of anti-bee dope does not leave the bee trees unpruned.

We do not subscribe to the theory of evolution, but, with reference to Mr. Platt's amazing agility, one does wonder if there is not some logic in the argument that man descended from monkey, or is it merely that practice makes perfect? What do you think?

### Material For Second MBA Annual Ready

M.B.A. is planning to publish its second year-book this year, and plans for it to roll off the presses the first week in June. Everything is coming along well, and the material is almost ready for the printers. Most of the students have already bought their annuals, and are looking forward to it with a great deal of interest. We feel that an annual is a very important thing in the school, for it records the daily events of school life, mostly pictorially, and provides a recall of those things which we especially want to remember in later years.

The staff, composed of Gene Harris, Russell McCown, Bob Lowe, Herbert Fox, and Nelson Andrews, has done a very efficient job, and we are sure that their efforts will reflect very favorably in the forthcoming volume.

### Completion of the Five New Rubico Tennis Courts Nears

#### Capt. James Stahlman Entertains Students

Last Thursday the students of M. B. A. spent an enjoyable hour seeing the pictures taken by Capt. James Stahlman on his recent journey to the distant battle fronts for the Navy. Capt. Stahlman narrated while the films were being shown. His trip included Newfoundland, Scotland, parts of France and Algeria, Morocco, India, and Burma. These reels included no actual fighting as military restrictions prohibited the filming of any battle action.

The first reel depicted scenes of the Indian city, New Delhi and the famous Taj Mahal. Shown next were pictures of the Burmese city, Ceylon, which Capt. Stahlman said, was perhaps the most beautiful of all the cities he visited on his trip. Last but not least pictures of Palestine, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and many other places having to do with the life of Christ were shown. Many of the picturesque scenes were in technical or every moment was enjoyed by the students.

We thank Capt. Stahlman for bringing the pictures to M. B. A. and hope he will visit us again soon.

#### Passing of Mid-Term Exams Brings Relief

Once more examinations have come and gone with a sigh of relief from everyone. With the passing of these mid term exams there remains only two more months of school before the final exams in June.

As a whole, according to Mr. Sager, everyone did just about as was expected with the exception of the usual few.

According to the reports of the boys around the school, science, English and Latin were the most difficult while the other subjects were comparatively easy. Contrary to general belief, Senior English turned out to be fairly easy with only a small percentage of the boys failing. Physics and chemistry on the other hand caused no small amount of woe in the respective classes.

For a good many students the next two months will tell the tale. A little more hard work and diligent studying will be in order for these persons in this coming period. We hope that our next exam record will greatly surpass the previous one.

With the completion of the five new Rubico tennis courts in sight, the tennis team, under the direction of Mr. Rule, is really planning a bang up season.

Work on the courts has proceeded slowly of late due to unfair weather conditions, but with a little favorable weather and enough workers the courts should be ready in time for the first matches. One court has been completed as to the surface and should be in excellent condition in a short time. The progress on the four other courts is rapidly increasing and they should also be in fine shape in the near future.

The idea of constructing rubico courts was conceived by Mr. Brownlee Curry, who has personally seen to it that this idea has been made into a reality. Professor James Rule has too kept interested in the plan and helped in numerous ways to see it through.

The credit for the actual supervision of the construction of the courts must go to Mr. Robert Alexander, a local tennis enthusiast, who certainly is well qualified for the job having experienced similar problems in the past. He has personally seen to it that the work is done in a conscientious and exact manner.

Mr. Eugene Harris, who is chairman.

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### McCullough Wins the Coat-of-Arms Contest

For the past four weeks the board of trustees has sponsored a contest among the student body of Montgomery Bell, the object of which was to obtain some ideas for a school seal, and the winner of which was Royal McCullough.

In a recent Chapel ceremony Mr. Sager announced the results of the contest, which the Aforementioned Royal won while John Griscom and Kermit Stengel garnered second and third place in the order. The contest, to which the contestants presented an original drawing of an emblem, was the idea of the board of trustees after trying unsuccessfully to create such an emblem, decided to turn the matter over to the student body. This group responded most enthusiastically and many drawings were presented for consideration.

McCullough received a twenty-five dollar war bond for his efforts while Griscom and Stengel received seven and five dollars in war stamps respectively. Mr. Sager was also authorized by the board to present to each student who submitted an entry the sum of one dollar in war stamps.

The entire student body is proud of the work done by these boys and it is hoped that similar interest will be shown in future enterprises.

### White Elephant Sale Reported Successful

The White Elephant Sale recently held at the home of Mrs. Charles Nelson and sponsored by the M.B.A. auxiliary was reported to be a huge success by Mrs. Elam. Everything from house slippers to peanuts was on sale and most of it was bought by the parents and friends of M.B.A. students. The parents on the refreshment committee were Mrs. Ferris Bailey and Mrs. R. Warner. Mrs. Elam was general chairman, Mrs. Brownlee Curry and Mrs. Morford Whitson were in charge of the miscellaneous table, and Mrs. James Tupper was in charge of the food table. Goods were sold to the amount of \$300. The money will be used wisely by the auxiliary to the betterment of M.B.A.

### M. B. A. Library, In A Neglected Condition For Past Years, Brought up To Date by School and Auxiliary

The M. B. A. library, which was in rather a neglected condition for several years, is now being brought up to date. A great many new books have been bought this year by the school and by the Ladies Auxiliary. Due to unforeseen circumstances, our former librarian, Mrs. Wyndham, was suddenly called away, and her place is being ably filled by Mrs. Norton Campbell, director of Public Speaking at M. B. A.

The library was completely painted during the Christmas vacation, new draperies were hung, and this spring the shelves have been completely cleaned, an inventory taken of the entire library and all the damaged books repaired. Also, some obsolete volumes were taken from the shelves and stored in the attic, so as to leave more room for new books.

Some new reference books have

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## STAFF

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Charlie Robinson, Larry Owsley, David McQuiddy, Fain Hackney, Manning Kirby, John Warner, Bobby Brown, John Donnelly, H. E. Cantrell and Hal Jamison

AND SO LET IT BE  
by Manning Kirby, Jr.

Whenever the name Montgomery Bell Academy is spoken the word sports is immediately foremost in the minds of the speaker and the person spoken to. There are two kinds of sports. One is a physical sport as represented by football, baseball, basketball, etc.; and the other is a mental sport—the playing of the game fair and square. The boys at M. B. A. have always, as long as the school has been in operation, gone out for sports in these two forms. Both forms are stressed greatly but the mental sport will always hold the high spot with the boys here at the Academy.

In training for sports we are taught to win a game fairly or not at all. I have seen many times the effect of this lesson. In many a game I have seen M. B. A. boys who could have cheated or fouled but did not. Of course on the other hand, there will be found the few slackers, the cheats, but they have not yet grasped the idea that makes M. B. A. what it is, an inspiration to those who think of clean fair playing, an inspiration to all those countless boys, now men, who used to go to M. B. A. They remembered the school as a teaching ground for the two lessons. A physical athletic sport, which makes a game shine in all its exciting glory, and the mental harder sport which makes the game, a game of sport and a game of life shine in all its hallowed decency and truth.

We at M. B. A. feel that we have obtained two of the greatest lessons of life when we have learned to use these two things.

When we know how to play hard, but fair, we will have obtained our glory.

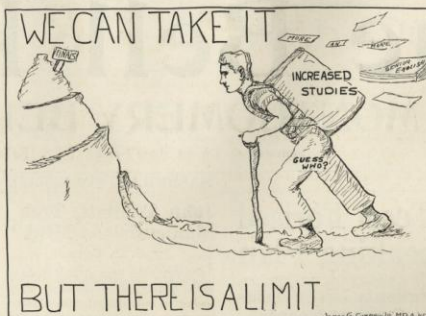
TRADITION  
by Gene Harris

As most of you here at Montgomery Bell realize, the students at M. B. A. have a great deal to live up to once they have entered its time-honored portals. For one hundred and thirty-nine years, M. B. A. has been in operation, and it is the oldest preparatory school in the South. During the course of events, many famous men have emerged from the Academy. Most of us here may not ever become as famous as Sam Davis or General Frank Maxwell Andrews, for instance, but each of us here must be made to understand and appreciate what people will expect of us as graduates of Montgomery Bell. For graduates of our school have displayed for many years those excellent qualities of character which characterize the Christian gentleman, and have continued to guide others along the paths of success, both in the eyes of other men and in the eyes of God.

It is our duty to carry on those traditions, and see that they may never have the chance to falter by the wayside, because the characteristics of a Christian gentleman have been the aim of every student who enrolls here. It is also up to us, not only to live up to the standards of the school, but to instruct the younger boys in these same traditions and characteristics, in order that they may more fully appreciate what M. B. A. stands for, and what is expected from each student in the school.

For over thirty years Professor Isaac Bell instilled these qualities into the minds, hearts, and souls of "his boys", as he fondly calls all of us, and no one ever connected with the school has been more aware of these things we here have to live up to. For a great many years, Mr. Ball has stood forth as a shining example of these traditions. With Mr. Ball retired, we naturally turn to the man who has been connected with the school for the longest length of time, and this is Coach Allen. No one, we feel sure, has ever understood boys more thoroughly than our beloved coach does, or has influenced them more along the paths of moral, spiritual, and mental righteousness.

So, boys, whenever you feel uncertain about the right thing to do, or would like to know more about the rich and colorful background of the school, talk to Coach, or one of the older boys in the school whom you think displays remarkable qualities of leadership. And remember, all your actions reflect either creditably or unfavorably upon the school and the student body as a whole, so stop and make certain that anything of which you are not absolutely sure is the right thing to do. M. B. A. and its graduates have always been thought very highly of in Nashville, and also to the far corners of the globe, and far be it from us to injure in any way that glorious record which our predecessors have so conscientiously and perseveringly built up for us!



## Class News

## GRADE DEPARTMENT

In recent election, officers of the Second Form were elected as follows: Don Wade, president; Dan Adams, vice-president; Morris Hackney, secretary-treasurer. The Literary Society officers for this year for the First Form are Henry Hooker, president; Jay Ward, secretary. In the Second Form, Don Wade is president, Morris Hackney, secretary.

What would happen if: Huston Horn (Sinatra) didn't try to sing before school. Dickie Barnes was skinny. Jimmy Bradford could hit a home-run in a baseball game. Edward Phillips came on time. Way Daniel would pay his debts.

## FRESHMAN CLASS NEWS

James Cates has been creating quite a lot of speculation lately, what with his ostentatious social life. He is turning in a performance in this field that rivals that of Ed Nelson.

Billy (99) on his algebra test (Vaughn) surprised everybody by making said grade. No explanation for this remarkable occurrence has been available as yet.

Bronson Ingram is the proud possessor of an excellent case of poison ivy. He obtained it in his back yard—or so he says. According to the latest authoritative account, Woods Foster now has seven hairs on his chest. Unlimited applications of Booby's hair grower should produce results in the near future, however.

John Jay Hooker is certainly hit hard by the new ruling concerning shirt-tails. The ruling is to the effect that all shirt-tails should be tucked neatly into the trousers at all times. Other Freshmen who will undoubtedly suffer from this new measure are Ed Nelson, Kirk Rankin, and Fain Hackney.

Bill Wade is proving to be a very capable mound performer on the school "nine." He is the only Freshman represented on the team.

## SOPHOMORE NEWS

Bob Pat French has been made utility man on the baseball team. Utility man, you know what that is. That's the guy who shakes your hand when you make a home run.

The meeting of the "Boogie Club" takes place every day at the first lunch period. Its membership includes such renowned duffers as Kermit (Curly) Stengel, Bobby (Dub) Waller, John (Fibb) Griscom and Billy (Tee Head) Calton.

The newest addition to the Jamison household (which includes the infamous Hal) is a brown rabbit, known as "Bugs." The noted scientist, Russell (Strong Man) Campbell, is trying to close a deal with Hal for "Bugs" services in his laboratory.

Coach Allen has had a hard time switching the more ambitious basketballers to baseball. John Donnelly, George Cole and Joe Drumright were seen to hide in the locker room to escape this fate.

Congratulations to local Stone Masons No. 89 for collecting the brick walk. Hope they didn't work too hard.

Question of the week: Why did the "Easter Bunny" change Billy Rhodes and Billy Knox into ducks? Maybe they were meant to fill some unfortunate soul's Easter basket.

## JUNIOR NEWS

George Ruth is very fond of holidays. He took his exams and hasn't been to school since.

It seems that Bill Ottenville had a bottle of peroxide in his hand, and it accidentally spilled all over his hair. Nervousness—of course. Jimmy Swain surely does like to be different. The other day he worked a problem in geometry which looked like one of Einstein's theories.

There have been plenty on new ways of browning up to the teachers, but after seeing Moulton Farrar holding hands with Mrs. Bitzer, all the other "brownies" had better fold up.

Has everyone seen how red the back of Herbert Fox's neck is? He really got charged up over the Easter holidays and not by the sun either.

Getting to the more serious side now—Congratulations to Joe Martin for making 100 on his chemistry exam. The next highest grade was 88. Great work, Joe.

A hearty handshake for Royal McCullough for winning a twenty-five dollar war bond for drawing the best coat of arms for the school.

## SENIOR CLASS NEWS

Bob Doster, the Senior Class Romeo, is having his ups and downs lately with the little woman. He is jilted one day and then back in there the next. Any one desiring to place bets on the final outcome of the situation should contact Robinson at once. The present odds are 8-5 on Doster.

Andy Andrews has gained the reputation of being a man's man. Tom Benagh, one of our prominent local pugilists, seems to have had an automobile accident. His only injury was a double compound fracture of the jugfulula spittili. See Tom for any and all details.

Buddy Hewitt brings back some very favorable reports from his trip to Alabama last week. He had an excellent time and was really shown the campus of the school.

Larry Owsley gave alone and practically unassisted the major portion of one of the shorter declamations in Chapel the other morning by virtue of his not being prepared in the regular meeting of the literary society.

Tru-li-Pure  
PASTEURIZED

SEALTEST MILK  
"Nashville's Finest"

Union  
Sealtest  
ICE CREAM

Hoots from the  
Owl's Nest

The sportiest individual around the school nowadays is JIMMY CATES. That dapper lad is wearing in addition to the usual pants, shirt and accessories a bee-pootiful Theta pin. We wonder how he was able to corner Horner. He is reported to have taken the six lessons from Madame La Zonga.

FESS HACKMAN has a new formula for digging up worms; he hustles 'em out with electricity. Any critics, wits, or non-believers can be assured of this fact by contacting the Boob.

LARRY OWSLEY may be seen at his best cavorting around the Grand Ole Opry stage on Saturday night. OWSLEY is very proficient at this sport, having studied under the best European teachers. Incidentally, he has now cut down to twenty-five cups of coffee and seven boxes of No-Doz a day.

BOB DOSTER is reported to be having many and lengthy troubles with Squeaky. He 'lows that he is too hen-pecked; she 'lows he ain't. A further description of the conflict will be reported in future issues.

BROWNLEE CURREY, after seeing his exam grades, is sending out mimeographed letters to all his teachers to the effect that he is the son of the chairman of the Board of Trustees.

It seems that PETE ROBINSON has been craving a lot of comfort lately. Since I always seem to be parked in the wrong place, however, I really couldn't say.

DAN TATE is turning into a first-class Romeo; he journeys daily to Candyland to meet his loved one.

JIMMY HESTER is head man of the paper boys of Thayer General Hospital; he is really doing a fine job. The main advantage is a PX card which entitles him to unlimited supplies of Hershey bars.

JOE TALBOT has many of the local lassies swooning in his afternoon concerts. We still have high hopes of his entertaining us in chapel.

BUDDY HEWITT is still raving over his trip to Alabama; he says that at this school the girls outnumber the boys 8 to 1. He plans to attend.

JOHN JAY HOOKER now holds undisputed possession in the race for total number of books lost during the school term.

The girls who served at the recent M. B. A. while elephant sale are to be commended for the fine salesmanship ability displayed there. The whole school wishes to offer its appreciation for the good job they did.

AL WHITSON and JOE MARTIN didn't show for baseball by virtue of an excess of social activities.

## And I Quote:

Child (ending prayer): "... And make Ireland independent."  
Mother: "My dear, why ask an absurd thing in a prayer."  
Child: "I put it that way in an exam."  
—Exchange.

Mother: "I'm not going to let him take my daughter to the prom."  
Friend: "Why not?"

Mother: "He just wrote that he won a loving cup."  
—Exchange.

Samuel!  
—um-m-m-m-m—w, -p-i—  
Samuel, wake up.  
Uh—mp-f-p—wasssa mater.  
Samual, I am certain I heard a mouse squeak.  
and Waddya want me to do—get up and oil it?  
—Volunteer.



## "MAROON HIGHLIGHTS"

by Ernest Matthews

In 1929 when Coach Allen was a student at Montgomery Bell, there was a boy here who set a state high school record for strikeouts during a single game. Jim Burge, the talented Maroon hurler of that year, is now in the Armed Services. He struck out twenty-three batters while pitching against Branham and Hughes School at Springhill, Tenn. Only four hits were collected off the M. B. A. pitcher and only one was hit out of the infield.

It is the report that only four interscholastic League teams have their own baseball diamonds. These are M. B. A., East, Litton, and Central. Most of the games will be played at either Shelby or Centennial Park. Duncan is said to have a priority on the No. 1 diamond at Centennial.

Bill Thompson of the Nashville Banner will probably be one of M. B. A.'s umpires in the home games this year.

### WHOOPS!

Gas can do funny things to people, as you will learn if you read the following story (?) told to me by Coach Allen. He was having a tooth extracted and while under the influence of the gas, he dreamed that he had become somewhat of a slugger. It was a hot July day and Coach was playing baseball. He hit two home runs, hit a triple, beat the umpire up, and got drunk. He was lucky, though; the dream wasn't long enough for him to have a hang-over.

One tennis court has already been surfaced and more would have probably been finished had it not been for the bad weather. As soon as the weather permits, work will be resumed.

For the first time M. B. A. will have an intra-mural horseshoe tournament. Three pits are to be made. The set-up will follow the same procedure that the other intra-mural games have followed. That is, the grade school will have a division, the freshman-sophomores will have one, and the juniors and seniors also will be in a separate division.

Due to the short right field boundary of the baseball field, certain ground rules must prevail. If any ball is hit over the fence between the right field foul line and a point thirty feet into the playing field, the hit will be an automatic double.

Buddy Hewitt and Jack Whitaker are the only boys on the Maroon squad who have had previous experience. Buddy played outfield for Ingleswood last year, while Whitaker played for the Junior Vols year before last.

Nelson Andrews is trying to start a hot marble tournament here at the Academy.

The baseball uniforms have arrived. They are gray with a red "M. B. A." on the front and black numerals on the back. The caps are red.

"Pete" Robinson, Nelson Andrews, Boots Lewis, Gene Harris, Clay Bailey, and Ernest Matthews took in the wrestling matches the other night.

## COMPLETION OF

(Continued from Page 1.)

man of the Athletic Committee, has worked tirelessly to secure the proper materials for the construction of the courts, as has Mr. John Bransford, a member of the tennis committee.

Mr. Rule has stated that as soon as the new steel net posts are set in place the use of the courts will begin. Temporary back stops made of the old nets will be set up pending the arrival of available wire from which the permanent net will be made.

As to the set-up of the chances for a tennis championship this

## Football Drills Are Finished For Spring

by John Donnelly

A recent meeting of the coaches of this city was highlighted by a talk by Coach Allen, wherein he stated that spring football should definitely be resumed this year. There had been considerable sentiment in favor of discontinuing spring football but the strong plea presented by Coach Allen erased all opposition.

Here at M.B.A. we are strangely aware of the many advantages of spring football. Many boys, released from training, become "soft" after the regular football season. The required training of spring football keeps them in good condition and better prepares them for what is in store next fall.

Practically the entire backfield will have to be re-formed for the 1945 season at M.B.A. The line, however, should be a formidable one as it was not affected by graduation to the same extent as the backfield. George Engel, Ken Goodpasture and Holly Murdock, of B team fame and renown, will have a none-too-easy time filling the shoes of fleet-footed Al Whitson, Nelson Andrews and Bobby Matthews, who graced our backfield last year. For two weeks Coach Allen gave the team a rigorous workout, ending with a hotly-contested scrimmage.

Coach plans to dress out 33 men next year—3 whole teams. The first and second teams are as follows:

**First Team**  
Ends: Jack Whiteaker and Vaden Luckey.  
Tackles: Nardy Elam and Joe Card.

**Center:** Moulton Farrar.  
Guards: Joe Washington and Bill Rhodes.  
Tailback: George Engel.  
Blockingback: Holly Murdock.  
Fullback: Jimmy Atkinson.

**Second Team**  
Ends: Purks and McEwen.  
Tackles: Bill Ottenville and Owen Hines.  
Guards: George Cole and George Ruth.

**Center:** Roy Miles.  
Tailback: Bill Wade.  
Blockingback: Bob Ezell.  
Blockingback: Hardy Lavender and Don Heckman.  
Fullback: Tommy Goodloe.  
The subs are: Jesse Ford, John Hazelton, Bill Bailey and Neal Lanius.

year, the hopes are exceptionally bright. With last year's team of Ferguson, Denny, McCullough, Curry, and Stengel returning to the man in addition to several promising newcomers in the persons of Whitson, Matthews, and Corson, this year's team should be a winner.

Ferguson, who will undoubtedly hold the number one spot this year in the seeded rankings, is playing for his fourth year at the Academy. The winner of numerous laurels and the runner up in last year's interscholastic tourney, he is considered by many of the tennis followers to be head and shoulders above the rest of the city's players.

Denny is rapidly becoming one of the most consistent men that represents M.B.A. on the courts. This consistency should steady the team in the number two slot, which he is expected to hold this year.

Curry, McCullough, and Stengel, the other three returnees from last year's first five are all capable performers and with a little more experience should turn into valuable assets to the team.

As yet no schedule has been made out but it is probable that Coach Rule will schedule most of the local teams in addition to several out of town clubs.

From the many plans afoot, it is evident that tennis will hold no second rate spot in future M.B.A. athletics.

# S P O R T S

THE BELL RINGER

3

Ernest Matthews  
Editor  
Dan Denney  
Edward McManus  
Assistant Editors

## Montgomery Bell Students Looking Forward To An Outstanding Golf Team For This Year

### Baseball Practice Off To Good Start

by John Donnelly

Following immediately on the heels of spring football, baseball has caught the fancy of nearly every boy in school. There are a large number of boys attending every baseball practice and from it M.B.A. should be able to form a potent nine.

Practice officially started March 26th, but informal infield practice commenced several days prior. The whole infield showed flashes of brilliance, especially Pete Robinson, who is doing a magnificent job holding down the "hot corner." Grounders have been stressed extensively and all the boys have showed marked improvement in handling them.

The starting berths have not been assigned to date, according to Coach Allen, and the field is an open one. Spirited contests are in progress for almost every position on the team and there is a strong possibility that the starting line-up will include one or more dark horses.

During this period of informal practice the infield has really been hustling with Coach Allen setting the tempo. Teamwork is a recognized fundamental in any sport where numbers participate. This is especially true in baseball where nine men must work together as one. Even at this early date the players are giving a promising performance of smoothness and co-operation. Under Coach Allen's tutelage M.B.A. should be well represented in this field.

From the current outlook the Big Red should be in fine shape to meet their first adversary in April.

M.B.A.'s 1945 baseball roster is as follows: Buddy Hewitt, Hardy Lavender, Bob Whitsitt, Nelson Andrews, Pete Robinson, Ernest Matthews, Jimmy Patterson, Joe Washington, Bill Wade and Neal Lanius.

Ottenville: "Well, I see you're back."

Ruth (back at school after being absent): "Oh, is there a hole in my shirt?"

Knox: "Do they have July Fourth in England?"

Mr. Younker: "Of course not."

Knox: "Then what day comes after July 3rd?"

Russell Campbell was so weak when he was a baby he had to suck his thumb through a straw.

Travis: "What sort of marks did Brownlee make on his chemistry exam. Was he worried?"

Royal: "Was he worried? He had so many wrinkles on his forehead he had to screw his hat on."

Mrs. Bitzer: "Jimmy, can you define nonsense?"

Atkinson: "Yes, ma'm—an elephant hanging over a cliff with his tail tied to a daisy."

Mr. Cornelius: "What are the three verb forms?"

Wiley: "Indicative, interrogative and imperative."

Mr. Cornelius: "Give an example of each."

Wiley: "Tom is sick—pause—Is Tom sick?—longer pause—Sick 'em, Tom."

### Halloran To Handle Intramural Sports

Nick Halloran, former student and ardent supporter of M.B.A., is returning to take complete charge of the intramurals in the grade school department. He has been a good friend of Coach Allen for 25 years and during that time has always shown extreme interest in Montgomery Bell Academy.

He is more than qualified for his new position, having been an all round good athlete when attending M.B.A. He played on the football team, the basketball team, and the baseball team, and 1931 was all-state basketball champ. He also graduated in the class of 1931 with a fine scholastic record.

Contributing more to his knowledge of sports, Nick has been connected with Lowe and Campbell Sporting Goods Co. for a number of years. He has once more returned to civilian life, having recently received an honorable discharge from service in the United States Army after spending two years in the Panama Canal Zone.

Nick has already taken over the intramurals, which include horse-shoes, tennis, softball and baseball. We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation of his interest in M.B.A. and to wish him good luck in his new job.

### Installation of New Time Paying System

Have you noticed those boys working like beavers on the back of the campus? Have you noticed the big muscles being developed and wondered how they got that way?

New tennis courts and a baseball diamond are being built, therefore the digging; and the muscles have come from penalty time being worked off by boys who have erred.

The old system of serving off penalty time in study hall after school has now been replaced by a new system whereby the boys who have accumulated time during the week may serve it off by working on the grounds under Coach Allen's supervision. The boys and the school are benefiting by this new payoff system. Soon we will have wonderful new tennis courts and a new baseball diamond regardless of a labor shortage.

## JOKES

Bailly was trying out for a position on the baseball team.

"What do you play?" Coach asked.

"Infield," he answered.

"What position?" Coach asked.

"Stooped over, just like the professionals," he replied.

Mr. Cornelius: "Why don't you scrape that mud off your shoes before coming in to class?"

Lanuis: "What shoes?"

For the past several years M.B.A. has had golf as one of its major spring sports. These golf teams have done exceptionally well in their competitive spirit and ability to play.

This year as in the past seasons, M.B.A. plans to have a golf team of high calibre in both these elements.

The players returning from last year's squad will be Charley Robinson and Buddy Hewitt, who have been potent factors in the excellent squads turned out in the past several years by Montgomery Bell Academy.

Charley Robinson held the number one spot on last year's club and he was certainly well fitted for the job. An excellent leader in addition to being a low man when it comes to golf, Charley was one of the most consistent players of the city.

Buddy Hewitt, who held the number two slot, was also an excellent golfer but it was not until the summer play that he really showed some fine work in golf. He is expected to play a major part in this year's team's try for the interscholastic crown.

Barron Siefred, number 3 man, although not very consistent did upon occasion turn in exceptionally low scores.

Edward McManus who is ineligible this year because of scholastic difficulties held the number four position of last year's team. Edward had perhaps the best record of any of the golfers on the team as he dropped but four points in the entire season.

The interscholastic league golf tournament is sponsored by the Nashville Banner and last year the matches were played on the hard, hilly, Shelby Municipal course. This year however, the matches will be played on the comparatively new McCabe Field layout in West Nashville.

The tryouts for positions on the team were held last week and the first game of the season is scheduled for Friday, April 6, which was too near our deadline for the report on the outcome of the match.

Due to their splendid record of last year and the return of two of the main cogs in the wheel of last year's victory machine, M.B.A. is expected to have a very good team this year.

The team of last year dropped only one match during the season and this was to the title holders, DuPont. This is a fine record to maintain and the business of doing just that will certainly be foremost in four boys' minds.

Last year Mr. Rule coached the team and did an excellent job in keeping the team together as well as helping the boys to perfect their games.

This year Mr. Rule will devote his full coaching time to tennis. Mr. Sager will coach the golf team as he has had past experience with coaching golf and has led several teams to very successful seasons.

Rhodes (playing shortstop): "How many are out, two or three?"

Hibbit: "Two."

Rhodes: "That's right. If it was three we wouldn't be out here, would we?"

Mrs. Campbell: "Give me the form for a good speech, Bobby."

Zanone: "Have a good beginning and ending, and keep them close together."

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### Personality of The Month

This month's personality, Bob Mathews, came to M.B.A. from Woodmont as a freshman, and hopes to graduate this June. Quite an athlete, Bob has played football every year he has been at the Academy; first year Microbe football, second and third years Cootie football, and fourth year Varsity football. Also, he played Cootie basketball one year. The smallest man on this year's Varsity football team, Bob really made up for what he lacked in weight by having an excessive quantity of guts and determination. And believe you me, it takes a right good deal of guts and determination to play blocking-back, let alone play it well. Founding away play after play, day after day, game after game; never carrying the ball, making touchdowns, or getting any of the glory of a football game calls for the best in a man. These things really find out whether a guy plays football for the love of the game, or for the glory. Bob plans to go out for tennis this spring, and should be a great help to the tennis team.

Although Bob's scholastic average is not among the best of the best, nevertheless it is certainly good enough in our league, especially along the scientific and mathematical lines, where he is positively a whiz, no less. What he lacks in "A's" he makes up in horse sense, which is probably more important than scholastic ability, and the ability to conjugate "amo." Also, an understanding of his fellow-students and a great sense of humor are important traits which Bob possesses in marked quantities.

Mr. Mathews, Bob's father, has been one of M.B.A.'s most loyal supporters at the football and basketball games, and has hauled the team around to many of their games. One of Nashville's foremost contractors, he has had charge of the construction work which has been in progress around the school this year, and has certainly done a fine job at it.

Bob's favorite subject is Math. His worst subject is English. His favorite food is steak. His favorite comic character is L'il Abner. His favorite pastime is fishing. His favorite expression is—(censored).

His favorite sport is football. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Mathews certainly have every right to be proud of their son Bob, who has made such an excellent all-round record here at M.B.A., and elsewhere, too.

### FIRST DEBATING

(Continued from Page 1.)

M.B.A.'s representatives were Bob Lowe and Ernest Matthews.

All the sides were reversed to those debating before the seniors, the points were comparatively the same.

Through the efforts of Mr. Sager, debating has been emphasized this year, as can be seen in the improved literary societies. Mrs. Campbell has said that the debating team will become a regular feature each year.

The interest shown by the student body is greatly appreciated by the members of the team, and they themselves deserve the highest commendation for their excellent work and efforts in making a splendid step toward improved public speaking at Montgomery Bell Academy.

### M. B. A. LIBRARY

(Continued from Page 1.)

been purchased, including a new set of *The World Book* and *The Reader's Guide*, which is an index to all prominent magazine articles written during the last ten years. This should be especially valuable in connection with the debating societies, since the school keeps all the back numbers of the many magazines on its subscription list in an accessible place. The current numbers of many prominent magazines are kept on the library shelves, and can be used by the students in the library.

In keeping with the school's policy of collecting up a large number of best-sellers, many new books have been added both this year and last year. The idea is to obtain books which seem to have some permanent value, and do not happen to be just "war books," as a great many of the new books seem to be. The librarian feels that in this way the students will become more interested in reading, and will read a great deal more when they find that the M. B. A. library has a large number of the books which are talked about and read by many people today. This does not mean, however, that the buying of the great classics will stop, or will in any way diminish. This practice will still continue on a large scale because it has been found lately that there are not enough copies of the great pieces of literature of the ages which are required reading for many classes, particularly English.

In keeping with the policy of the library, the students have been educated, or introduced rather, to Library Science. A test was given to each student at school last winter to determine how much each one knew about the use of the library, and then instruction was given in Library Science. We feel that many students have benefited from this instruction, and have taken a more active interest in reading and in the library.

Last year, a Library Council was formed of some eight or ten boys in the school, and served to pick out new books, assist with book repairs, and assist with keeping the library records. We feel that if such a council were reorganized, even more active interest would be created among the boys, and that the council would be of a great aid as a body, especially for selecting new books.

In conclusion, let us urge that all you boys drop around to the library during some spare moment and glance at the array of new books, which we feel sure will interest all of you.

### Holidays Agreeable

The students at M.B.A. were agreeably surprised when Mr. Sager announced that there would be three days spring holiday this year. The majority of the students end and had wished for just that.

Mr. Herback: "John Bell!"  
Keeble: "What?"  
Mr. Herback: "Are you spitting on my hat?"  
Keeble: "No, but I've been coming pretty close."

Remember, Suspender Day is Wednesday. Everyone be sure and show in suspenders.

### For Flowers Harrison Bros.

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### Looie's Hangovers...

Oh, happy day! Exams are over, life is sweet once more. During the ordeal we noted several things that might interest you birds, so we hereby present as a special feature in this issue:

#### MID-TERM EXAM HIGHLIGHTS

Joe Martin made a hundred on his chemistry exam. This establishes a new record, says Booby.

Larry Owsley is reported to have completely blown up on his exams, who ever said: "No-Dose" tablets are non-habit forming.

The seniors as a whole did very well on their English exam. The juniors did simply stunk.

Billy Ferguson had a Physics exam at one o'clock, so he came to school at nine and browned down for four hours. He made 97.

By the way, Tom Proctor's brown is running out.

Hester was given ten points for going in and putting a bunch of numbers on his algebra blue book. Joe Talbot came through with flying colors. The next day he went down and registered for the draft.

Jene Harris gave a pleasant little soiree in the form of a picnic the other evening. The guest of honor, Gypsy Warfield, decided not to come. Another missing item was the frankfurters. Nevertheless and notwithstanding, a merry old time was had by all. Elmer Davies, colorful alumnus of the Academy, lent his amiable wit and charm to the affair. Hugh Morgan was there. He used to go to M. B. A., too, I think.

The son of the chairman of the board, Brownlee Curry, made a very good performance on the drums at the Delta Sigma dance. The S. M. A. debators made our boys look sick at the debate last Monday.

That guy, the editor, wanted me to interview the tree doctor. He wanted me to ask him some personal questions, like what did he cut his toenails with, but I sh' ain't gonna do it.

Poem of the week:  
Under the spreading chestnut tree,  
The village smith he squirms,  
For he has been eating chestnuts,  
And they were full of worms.

Jr. Poem of the week:  
Some folks think that fleas are black,  
But I don't think that's so,  
Cur Mary had a little lamb,  
Whose fleas was white as snow.

Poetry you wants, poetry you gets,  
In response to the subtlest hints,  
I grinds it out at the drop of a hat  
Sans meter, sans rhyme, sans sense.

Joke of the week:  
Robinson: Why are you limping?  
Do your shoes hurt?  
Bailey: No, but my feet sure do.

So long, fellows. See you in the next issue.

LOOIE.

### Tom Harrison

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## With Our Alumni

by Bob Lowe, Jr.

M. B. A. is proud to claim the late Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews among its alumni. Andrews Field in Maryland, named for this distinguished army officer, former commanding general of the U. S. forces in the European theater of operations, was dedicated in his honor March 31, 1945. Gen. Andrews lost his life in a plane crash in Iceland May 3, 1943.

These days our armies are moving fast on the continent is proven by the report from one of our boys, O'Neal Clayton, who is with an artillery unit there. In less than a week he was in France, Holland, and Germany. In Holland he lived in a home where no one could understand the others language, but the housewife was kind enough to do his laundry and accept his bows and broad smile as sufficient thanks. O'Neal is now with Patton's Army.

Billie Wenys recently had a narrow escape when somewhere in Germany a bomb exploded too near him. He was injured and sent back to a hospital in France.

Brook Stevenson, who has been aboard the U. S. S. Monterey in the Pacific waters for the past 19 months, was home for a visit. After 15 days here he reported to Seattle for further assignment and to his surprise he was greeted by this, "Another leave—thirty days and ten days traveling time." Reason: The new ship to which he's been assigned was not completed. Welcome home again, Brook.

Bee Hunter has recently finished a three weeks' technical course at the Naval Training Center, Jacksonville, Fla. Bee was lucky to have a week at home before going to Alameda, Calif., where he will be an instructor in naval aviation. B. K. Hibbitt spent Easter Sunday with home folks. He is in the V-12 program at the University of Louisville, and is anxiously awaiting his assignment to Med school. He's still wishing it will be Vanderbilt.

Frank Berry was home for five days last week before reporting to the naval base at Shoemaker.

Calif. Before long he expects to sail for overseas duty. Lt. (J. G.) Mat Dobson, with the amphibious group, is home on leave. Lt. Dobson has been stationed at Mora Bay, Calif. However, upon his return to California he will report to San Francisco where he will probably be given an overseas assignment.

George Payne, now in Gulfport, Miss., is taking a radio course at the naval base there. On his first week-end pass George and some other boys from the base were fortunate enough to be guests at the White House, Biloxi, Miss. In early June the Payne family are planning to take a cottage in Gulfport so as to be near George for awhile.

Ensign Jimmy Granberry, who has been taking a special course at Notre Dame, has been home for five days. From here his destination is Miami, Fla., where he will receive further training.

Moose Carr, All-State tackle in 192, is in the Air Corps and stationed at Dyersburg, Tenn.

Lieut. Carey Jenkins, U. S. Navy, has been stationed at Pensacola, Fla. He was recently transferred to Chapel Hill, N. C., where he will participate in an athletic program. Lt. Jenkins attended M. B. A. in 1930.

Rodger Rule, Seaman First Class, is preparing for overseas duty.

Barron Seiferd, Jr., United States Reserves, has returned to Memphis where he is stationed, after having spent the week end with his parents.

Private Jack Trabue is now stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla.

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